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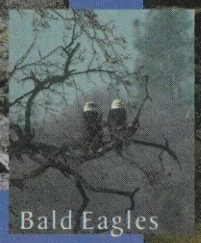
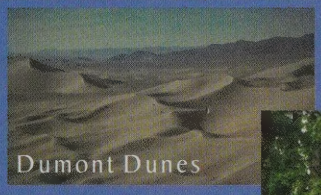
California's Natural Wildlands Legacy

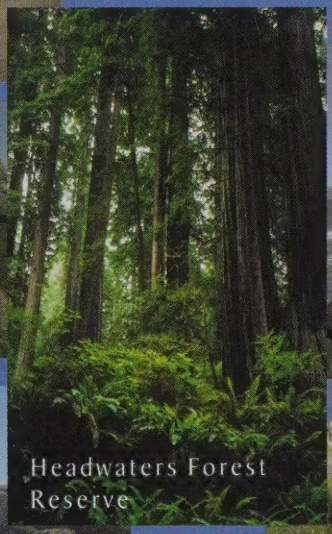
Bureau of Land Management

Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument


Bald Eagles

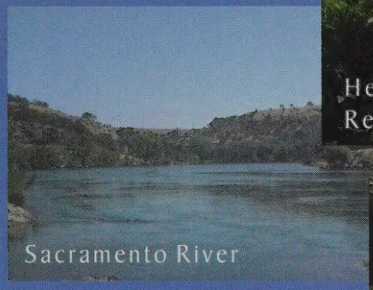
Cache Creek

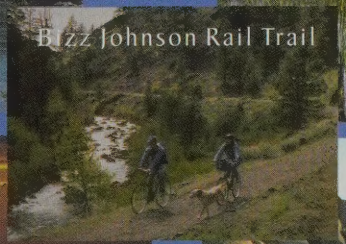

Dumont Dunes


Headwaters Forest Reserve

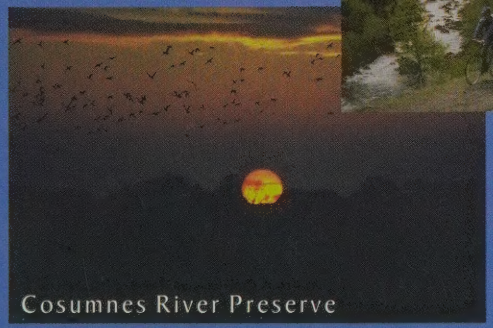
Carrizo Plain National

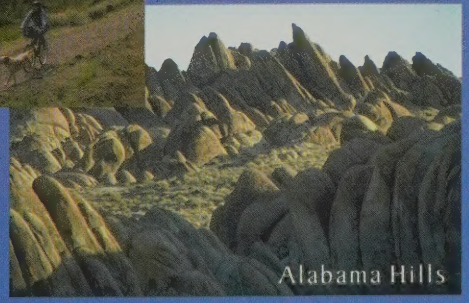
California Coastal National Monument


Sacramento River


Bizz Johnson Rail Trail

Paynes Creek


Cosumnes River Preserve


Alabama Hills

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Dear Friends,

California is one of the most diverse places on earth with an abundance of natural resources. The15 million acres of public lands in California and the 1.5 million acre portion of northwestern Nevada administered by the Bureau of Land Management's California offices exemplify this diversity and richness of resources.

One of the Bureau's key roles is to be a facilitator and work to build partnerships with our many stakeholders. Partnering with state and local governments, private landowners, conservation and environmental groups, the business community, and other federal agencies allows us to manage the land and natural resources in a manner that serves the larger common interest of the public, as well as the needs of the partners.

To that end, BLM works diligently to include all viewpoints in developing our management strategies, looking well beyond our boundaries to develop management solutions that can be applied regionally by federal, state, local, and private land managers.

The solutions we have forged with these partnerships have allowed us to strike a responsible balance among the needs of our various partners while providing conservation, restoration, and protection of the nation's valuable natural resources that have been placed in our stewardship.

BLM partners with federal, state, and local governments as well as private landowners, conservation and environmental groups, and business interests to forge solutions to local and regional issues which improve land management and resources, and serve the public interest.

BLM also provides brochures by region, which share more information on the unique assets and challenges of public lands for recreation, wilderness, mining, communication sites, grazing, wildlife habitat, and other uses and protections. You can obtain a brochure of the ecological region that you are interested in from your local BLM Field Office, at www.ca.blm.gov, or by calling (916) 978-4400.

We hope you enjoy "California's Natural Wildlands Legacy" with its emphasis on the goals and assets of public lands in California. Your interest and support in managing your public lands for protection and enhancement along with BLM and others is a personal legacy that only you can provide for future generations.

Mike Pool
BLM State Director

Your lands....*Your legacy!*

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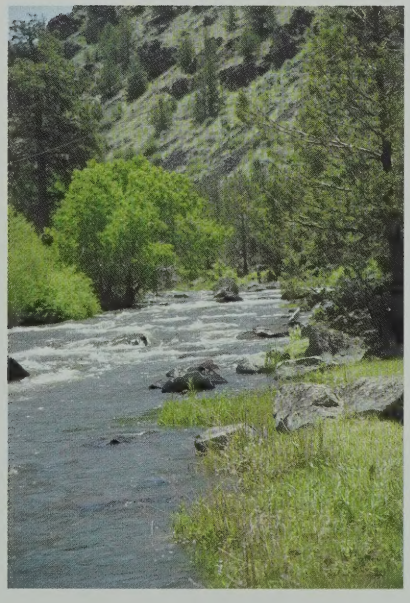

Headwaters of the Pit River

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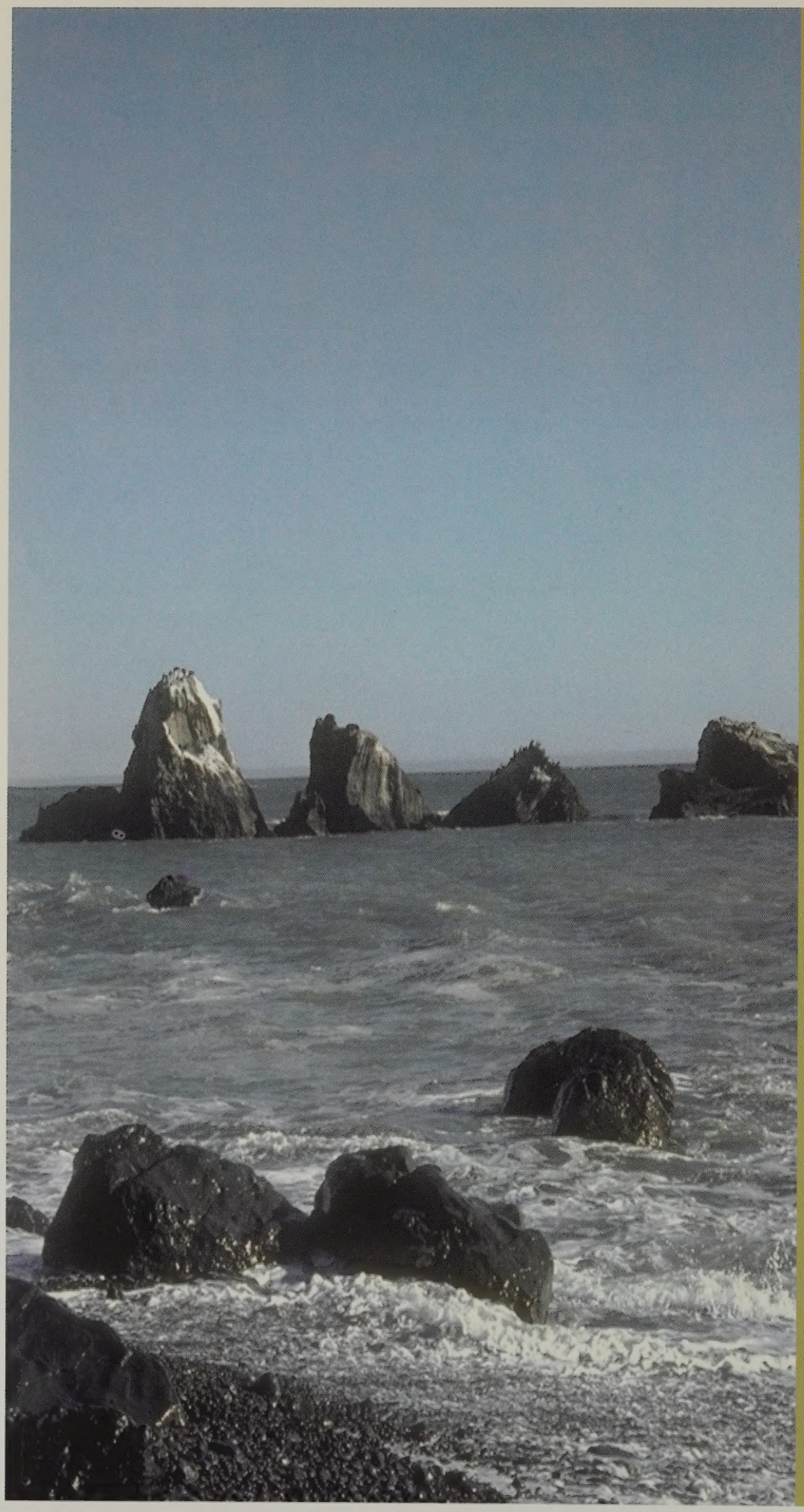


"To waste, to destroy, our natural resources, to skin and exhaust the land instead of using it so as to increase its usefulness, will result in undermining in the days of our children the very prosperity which we ought by right to hand down to them amplified and developed."

Theodore Roosevelt

North Coast

The rugged coastal region from Mendocino County to the Oregon border is a landscape of misty old-growth forests, rocky isolated coastlines, and wild rushing rivers.

These lands provide a place of refuge for an array of life ranging from the great Pacific salmon to the delicate and obscure fungi of the forest floor.

The towering redwoods of the Headwaters Forest Reserve, rugged shoreline of the King Range National Conservation Area, windswept dunes of the Samoa Peninsula, and dark Douglas-fir forests of the coastal interior provide visitors with a place to return to natural lands and escape from the rigors of modern living. These visitors in turn seek services in nearby rural communities and contribute to the local economies.

Goals

Interspersed among California's most productive managed timberlands, BLM provides stewardship for a network of conservation areas and reserves to protect old-growth forests, coastal dunes, and sensitive watersheds.

Key Assets of the North Coast

- Headwaters Forest Reserve
- King Range National Conservation Area
- California Coastal National Monument
- Samoa Dunes
- Mattole River Watershed
- Trinity River Watershed
- Eel River Watershed

Lost Coast - King Range NCA

California/Nevada Great Basin

Bizz Johnson Rail Trail

This region of the high desert, where the old west meets the new, provides solitude, expansive vistas, and unique opportunities to experience history while enjoying open spaces and abundant recreation. Visitors to the Black Rock Desert - High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trail National Conservation Area travel one of the most preserved segments of the Applegate-Lassen National Historic Trail, a major route for gold seekers in the mid-1800's. To sample a different era of history, the Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail celebrates the contribution of railroads in the settlement of the west by offering a "rails to trails" recreation experience.

These broad expanses of diverse public lands are key to supporting traditional working ranches and local communities while providing clean and reliable water to the north state.

Key Assets of the NE CA/NV Great Basin

- Applegate-Lassen National Historic Trail
- Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail
- Black Rock Desert - High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trail National Conservation Area
- Eagle Lake Basin

Goals

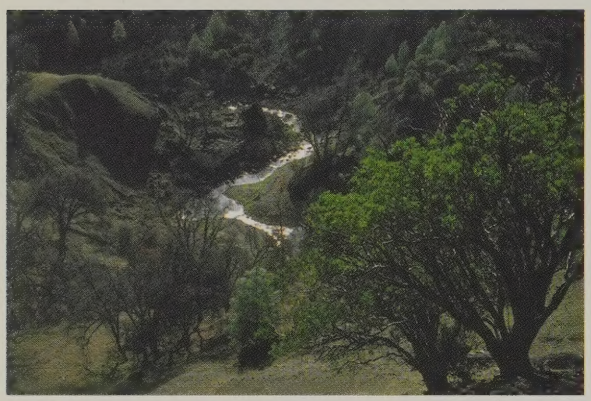
Protect historical and cultural heritage. Manage public lands to support healthy rangelands, particularly the sagebrush steppe, and provide clean and reliable water sources to the north state.

Bay Delta

The Bay Delta region is not all urban development. A vast open space north of San Francisco Bay called the Blue Ridge/Berryessa complex, hosts many unique undeveloped landscapes. These landscapes include such attractions as the wild flowers of Bear Valley, oak woodlands of the Payne Ranch, the wilderness canyons of Cache Creek, the summit of Blue Ridge, and the desert environment of Knoxville. The Bay Delta region is a huge recreational draw for water sports and recreational trails. The most popular areas for these activities are Lake Berryessa and Cow Mountain. Over a million visitors see and enjoy this open space annually. Located less than two hours from San Francisco and Sacramento, this area represents the last large block of wild lands within the Bay Delta region.

Key Assets of the Bay Delta

- Cache Creek Management Area
- Cow Mountain Recreation Area
- Critical Wildlife Habitat
- Open Space



Cache Creek

Goals

Provide a natural environment and recreational trails network for use and enjoyment by Bay Area and other regional residents and visitors.

Sacramento Valley

The Sacramento River

Encompassing the northern end of the great Central Valley of California, the Sacramento Valley stretches from Redding to the southeast corner of Sacramento County between the Sierra Nevada Mountain range to the east and the California coastal mountains to the west. Oak woodlands, riparian forests, vernal pools, freshwater marshes and grasslands provide natural vegetation for wintering waterfowl, attracting more than 1.5 million duck and 750,000 geese to the inviting wetlands along the Pacific Flyway.

BLM has been working for many years to acquire and consolidate federal land ownership along the Sacramento River, Clear Creek, and other areas critical to the Valley. The river system provides spawning ground for threatened and endangered salmon as well as critical riparian resources.

Key Assets of the Sacramento Valley

- Sacramento River
- Clear Creek
- Paynes Creek
- Interlakes Recreation Area

Goals

Protect and enhance the riparian habitat and fish spawning and rearing habitat of the Sacramento River and its tributaries. Consolidate lands along the river corridor for public ownership and conservation. Foster a spirit of cooperation, communication and education among all stakeholders.

San Joaquin Valley

The San Joaquin Valley is the heartland of California and the state's top agricultural producing region. Encompassing the southern portion of the great Central Valley, it is the third most populous region in California.

The Carrizo Plain National Monument is the largest remaining remnant of the once vast grasslands of the Central Valley. Now at 250,000 acres, the area is a diverse complex of critical habitats for endangered and threatened species and significant archaeological and historical resources.

The Cosumnes River, the only free-flowing river left in the Central Valley, and the Cosumnes River Preserve provide critical habitat for migrating birds along the Pacific flyway.

Goals

Enhance and restore areas of the last remnants of habitat in the valley. This includes saltbrush scrub and grasslands, creating wildlife corridors and benefiting endangered species.

Key Assets of the San Joaquin Valley

- Cosumnes River Preserve
- Carrizo Plain National Monument
- Oil and Gas Leases
- Threatened & Endangered Plants and Animals

Carrizo Plain National Monument

Sierra Foothills

A spectacular part of California's landscape, the Sierra Nevada Mountains supply most of the state's water and a significant portion of its recreation and natural beauty. The Sierra Foothills are the lower elevations on the western slope of the mountain range, where ecosystems make a transition from valley grasslands through oak woodlands to coniferous forests. Rich in history, the foothills are the traditional home of native tribes as well as the location of the Great Gold Rush of 1849. Today, the foothills provide refuge for dwindling wildlife and for people escaping urban sprawl.

Six groves of Giant Sequoias, the only Giant Sequoia trees on BLM land, are on Case Mountain. These groves are highly prized by researchers because of their relative inaccessibility and historical background.

Goals

Searching for the remaining natural treasures, BLM seeks to find and protect these treasures for future generations. Working with many partners, provide protection of the watersheds, while serving a booming population in search of places to go.

Middle Fork of the American River

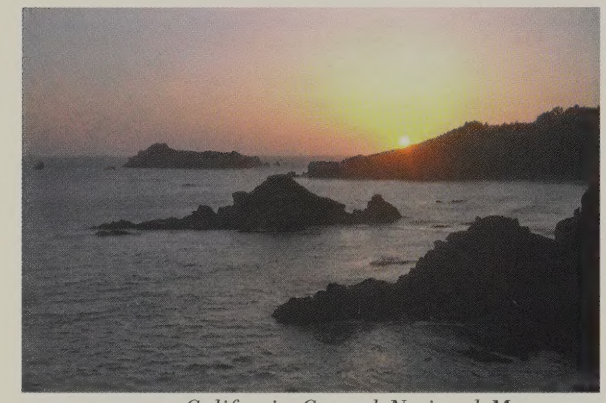
Key Assets of the Sierra Foothills

- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Oak Woodlands
- Case Mountain
- Pine Hill Ecological Preserve

Central Coast

Key Assets of the Central Coast

- Fort Ord
- Coastal Dairies
- California Coastal National Monument
- Clear Creek
- Point Sal
- Piedras Blancas Lighthouse
- Los Osos Coastal Dunes



California Coastal National Monument

The Central California Coast is wild and beautiful with fragile coastal dunes, stands of oak and chaparral, and important prehistoric sites. Blessed with a mild climate and rich agricultural soil, the Central Coast is a highly valued area leading to exceptionally rapid growth.

On January 11, 2000, a presidential proclamation put the thousands of small rocks, islands and pinnacles off the coast of California under the jurisdiction of BLM as the California Coastal National Monument. The geological formations of the Monument provide unique and fragile habitat for feeding and nesting seabirds and other indigenous species.

As part of a cooperative base closure and reuse effort, BLM is cooperating with the U.S. Army to restore the former Army training site at Fort Ord back to natural coastal habitat to support a number of special status plant and animal species.

Goals

Protect and preserve the native habitat, natural and cultural resources, while giving the public an opportunity to experience the rugged beauty of this land. Implement regional conservation strategies through collaborations and partnerships.

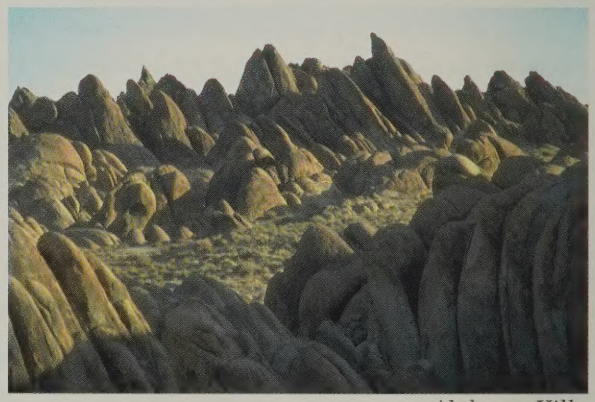
Eastern Sierra

On the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains is the American Great Basin. Cold in winter and hot and dry in the summer, this desolate, yet fragile land holds abundant mysteries and beauty. Sheltered by the sheer eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the sparsely populated "Eastern Sierra" is rapidly evolving into a key recreation and open space escape for the expanding urban centers of Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Reno and Carson City.

From classic western movies and TV programs such as the Lone Ranger to commercials and magazine photos, the Alabama Hills have been a favorite filming area since the 1920s. The hills are also a favorite destination for recreationists, hikers and campers. The area contains several campgrounds at Crowley Lake, Tuttle and Lone Pine. A section of the Pacific Crest Trail can be accessed at Chimney Peak.

Goals

Caring for the last vestige of wild California through conservation, education and partnerships. Preserving the integrity of the ecosystem including the ground aquifers that support wetlands. Protecting spectacular vistas, and historical and cultural treasures. Collaborating with local communities to nurture sustainable tourism and recreation based economies.



Alabama Hills

Key Assets of the Eastern Sierra

- Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
- Inyo Wilderness
- Alabama Hills
- Tungsten Hills
- Lower Rock Creek Trail
- Volcanic Tablelands
- Bodie Hills

Mojave Desert

Key Assets of the Mojave Desert

- Wilderness
- Patton Camps
- Desert Tortoise Natural Area
- Amargosa Canyon Country
- El Mirage and Ivanpah Dry Lakes
- Harper Dry Lake Marsh
- Afton Canyon

Desert Tortoise

The Mojave Desert, often referred to as the "high desert", lies between the Colorado Desert to the south and the Sierra Mountains to the north. The landscape includes small mountain ranges such as the Granite Mountains, sand dunes, dry lakes and colorful rock canyons.

The Mojave is home to numerous threatened and endangered species, most notably the desert tortoise, the state reptile.

Environmentally responsible recreational use continues in this arid landscape. Most use is vehicle dependent because of the vastness of the region. Access is through an established network of routes and trails. Competitive OHV events are authorized at specific locations such as Johnson Valley, Stoddard Valley and El Mirage Dry Lake Bed.

Goals

Provide protection, development and use of public lands and preserve the natural and cultural resources without destroying the sense of freedom and solitude cherished by most desert users.

South Coast

Stretching from San Diego to Los Angeles, this southeast portion of California maintains a reputation as a world-class destination with an ideal climate and miles of sandy beaches. When people think of California, this is often the area they think about. But, there is much more for hikers, mountain bikers, and nature lovers beyond the stereotypical California image.

With one of the largest populations in the world, the landscape of the South Coast has been forever altered. BLM is a part of various multi-species planning efforts throughout the region to preserve the remaining critical habitat areas.

The Otay Mountain Wilderness next to San Diego, protects a unique ecosystem in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Chaparral, coastal sage, Tecate cypress and many other plants and animals are found on the limited BLM lands.

Goals

Work with partners to implement regional conservation strategies that protect and restore native habitat, and provide environmental outreach to urban communities.

Otay Mountain Wilderness

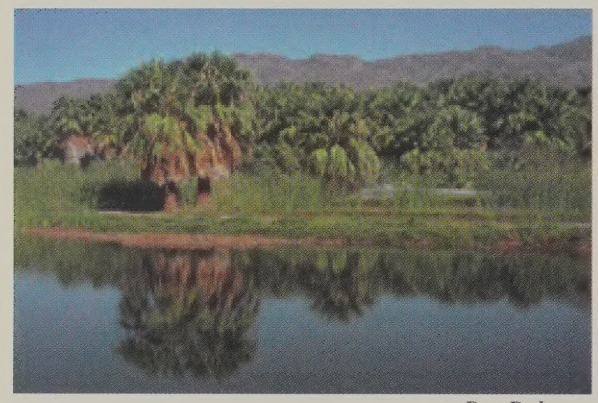
Key Assets of the South Coast

- Otay Mountain Wilderness
- Santa Margarita River Ecological Reserve
- McCain Valley Resource Conservation Area
- In-Ko-Pah Mountains

Colorado Desert

Key Assets of the Colorado Desert

- Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument
- Dos Palmas Preserve and ACEC
- Big Morongo Preserve
- Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard Preserve
- Salton Sea
- Algodones Dunes/Imperial Sand Dunes
- Mecca Hills Wilderness
- Historic & Prehistoric Resources
- Yuha Desert
- San Sebastian Marsh and San Felipe Creek ACEC



Dos Palmas

The arid Colorado Desert occupies the southeast portion of California. Often called the "low desert", the region gets its name from the great Colorado River that flows through it.

The fragile desert ecosystem hosts numerous threatened and endangered species. The Colorado Desert, a subtropical desert, supports plants like fan palm, palo verde, desert ironwood and ocotillo and animals such as the bighorn sheep, kangaroo rat and fringe-toed lizard.

Maze-like badlands and technicolor canyons provide a fascinating backdrop for hiker, camper, and off-highway vehicle enthusiasts in this corner of California. The Mecca Hills Recreation Area, Imperial Sand Dunes, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument and Coachella Valley attract thousands of visitors each year.

Goals

Preserve the fragile desert with its magnificent assets, while providing access for enviromental and receational opportunities

Inyo Mountains Wilderness, Eastern Sierra

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P.O. BOX 25047
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For more information concerning California's Natural Wildlands Legacy, contact the BLM Field Office nearest you:

www.ca.blm.gov

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708 W. 12th Street
Alturas, CA 96101
Tel: 530.233.4666

Arcata Field Office
1695 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521-4573
Tel: 707.825.2300

Bakersfield Field Office
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308
Tel: 661.391.6000

Barstow Field Office
2601 Barstow Road
Barstow, CA 92311
Tel: 760.252.6000

Bishop Field Office
785 N. Main Street, Suite E
Bishop, CA 93514-2471
Tel: 760.872.4881

California Desert District Office
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Riverside, CA 92507
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Eagle Lake Field Office
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Susanville, CA 96130
Tel: 530.257.0456

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Ridgecrest Field Office
300 S. Richmond Road
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